

Against

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Atomic Bomb editorial

BOOM! That's the sound of the bombs on Nagasaki and Hiroshima. It was necessary, wasn't it? Maybe not. On August 6th and 9th 1945, America bombed two cities in Japan, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki. America decided to use this option out three others, to end World War Two, because Japan was the last Central power. The bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were a terrible decision and a horrifying mistake and tragedy. I feel this way because thousands of civilian lives were taken in brutally painful ways, with their land and homes, the U.S.A. was selfish for political reasons, and Japan would've surrendered anyway, for other purposes.

Thousands of civilian lives were taken in brutally painful ways, for no reason. Approximately 80,000 people were killed instantly or disappeared, 35,000 injured, and 60,000 died by the end of the year. An eyewitness at Hiroshima recalled "[climbing] Hikiyama Hill and looked down... Hiroshima had disappeared" Many people lost their homes, lives land, and freedom in very brutally terrible ways. Even though President Truman claims he "did not seek to destroy Japanese culture or people" This could've all been prevented from thinking through other options and deciding on one of those.

The US was very selfish for political reasons, even though they were trying to end a war and come up with better options. "Better options were discarded for political reasons." Says Tyushi Hasegawa. There were three other reasons the US could've used but chose not to. They could've continued conventional bombing, do a ground invasion, or demonstrate one of the bombs on the unpopulated island. They decided not to do a ground invasion because too many Americans would die, so they decided to take

Japanese lives. They determined not to demonstrate the bomb because that would be a waste.

Japan would've surrendered anyway for other reasons. "Those bombings had little to do with the Japanese decision to surrender," says Martin J. Sherwin. After the Soviet Union joined the war on the Allies side, the Japanese were worried that the Soviets would invade northern parts of Japan. Civilian leaders urged Emperor Hirohito to surrender for his safety. "...this view is difficult for the Americans to accept." Again, these reasons had little to do with the bombs and America.

The atomic bomb was a mistake and tragedy and could have been prevented in so many ways. Too many lives were taken, the US was selfish, and Japan would've surrendered anyway. The use or intended use of nuclear and atomic weapons is unacceptable. How would you like it if we were bombed? We need to make amends and prevent this kind of bombing, now!